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SIMON LAKE



Simon Lake, inventor of the submarine, is said to have designed an undersea merchantman ten times the size of the Deutschland which can be built quickly, has great speed and will break the German submarine blockade.

PEACE OFFER TO SLAVS

Austria and Germany Eager to Get Russia Out.

Lokal Anzeiger Says Hollweg Must Take Dictation of Military Party Regarding Peace.

Amsterdam, May 24.—That Austro-Hungary intends to make a peace offer to Russia, was indicated by advice received here today. This offer was discussed at the recent conference of Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, and German officials at German great headquarters. It was said. According to the prevailing belief in Vienna, Emperor Charles is disposed "to offer generous terms" to the Russians, including the freedom of the Danubian and the restoration of Poland.

Peace talk is becoming more and more insistent in the central empire and practically all over Europe outside of England, France and Italy.

Socialists in the Scandinavian countries are working with might and main, and their influence is not going entirely to waste.

It is reported from Rome that the German allies made a secret peace offer to the allies and that it was rejected.

Emil Zimmerman, editor of the Lokal Anzeiger, the chancellor is-ling that Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German chancellor, made a misleading statement to the reichstag when he said that he was in complete accord with the high command of the army. In political matters, say the Lokal Anzeiger, the chancellor is responsible, but in military affairs he has to give formal consent to anything Field Marshal von Hindenburg says, whether he approves of it or not. The intimation is that the German chief of staff is not backing the chancellor's personal peace views.

The Cologne Volkszeitung is publishing an appeal for signatures to a petition demanding a "Hindenburg peace." According to this newspaper, the Germans are not fighting a war of widespread conquest, but must annex Belgium for their own good.

The peace talk movements are gaining strength in Turkey as well as the countries of Europe, and certain factions of the Young Turk party are becoming very active in that direction.

Count Hertling, the Bavarian premier, is again in the peace limelight. This time he predicts "that the statesmen of the entente countries will see the error of their ways by autumn, and be ready to talk peace seriously."

The Bavarian premier indicates his belief that the allies will modify their peace terms.

Americans to Feed Selves.

Washington, May 24.—General Pershing's troops will eat American food while serving in the trenches in France. The nine regiments of engineers also will have American food, as will the regiment of marines which will operate with Pershing's men. This was determined by Gen. Al Smith, chief of the division of supplies of the quartermaster's corps, who already has started plans for completely stocking the commissary of the expedition.

Aliens From Mexico Admitted.

Washington.—With the view to providing against a probable shortage in a farm labor, Secretary of Labor Wilson issued orders for the admission to the United States of aliens from Mexico otherwise barred by the literacy test or the contract labor clause of the immigration law. Commissioner General of the Immigration Bureau Caminetti announced the order, explaining that it was to relieve conditions in the southwestern States, where farmers have been accustomed to import seasonal labor from Mexico.

NEW GUARD UNITS TO BE ORGANIZED

Regiments Necessary to Complete Sixteen Infantry Divisions.

ASK BIG QUOTAS IN WEST

Each Division Will Have an Aero Squadron—U. S. Wants Existing Units Brought Up to War Strength First.

Washington, May 24.—Organization of scores of new regiments of National Guard infantry, artillery, engineers, signal corps and cavalry will be undertaken soon to supply the tactical formations necessary for the establishment of the 16 divisions of the guard provided for in the war department's plans.

In addition to these troops, immediately after the existing state soldiers have been drafted into the federal service, there must be organized divisional headquarters detachments, supply, ammunition and medical trains, heavy field artillery and signal battalions, an air service, two cavalry divisions and many new coast artillery units and reserves.

New Illinois Units.

The new organization plans call upon Illinois, the Twelfth division, to provide one regiment of infantry, two regiments of field artillery, one regiment (less one company) of engineers and one battalion (less one company) of signal corps.

Comparison of the organization tables for the 16 infantry divisions with the existing guard establishment shows that in the infantry, the arm of the service in which the guard is strongest, 30 regiments and 6 companies must be created to provide the 144 regiments of the divisional structure.

Each division also will have an aero squadron or balloon company, making 16 air service units.

The first effort of the department is to bring up to full war strength all existing units of the guard. When that has been accomplished, the next step will be to create the new units necessary to complete the 16 infantry divisions, and the adjutant general of the states have been instructed that they should prepare for these new organizations without delay. The central western states will be called upon to furnish in addition the following:

Eleventh division—Michigan, one regiment field artillery, one battalion engineers, one field company, signal corps; North Dakota, one regiment field artillery, one regiment (less one squadron) cavalry, two regiments (less four batteries) field artillery, one battalion (less one company) engineers, one outpost company signal corps; Nebraska, one regiment infantry, one wire company, signal corps.

Seventeenth division—Kentucky, one regiment infantry, one regiment field artillery, one battalion engineers, one field battalion signal corps (less one company); Indiana, two regiments infantry, one regiment cavalry, one regiment field artillery, one regiment field artillery (less one battalion), one battalion of engineers.

HUNGARIAN CABINET RESIGNS

Count Tisza, Premier, Reported to Be at Odds With Emperor Charles of Austria.

Geneva, Switzerland, May 24.—The entire Hungarian cabinet, headed by Count Tisza, the premier, has offered its resignation to Emperor Charles of Austria. It is not yet known what action the emperor has taken in the matter. Tisza and his cabinet are said to have been unpopular with Charles because of their pronounced pro-German tendency.

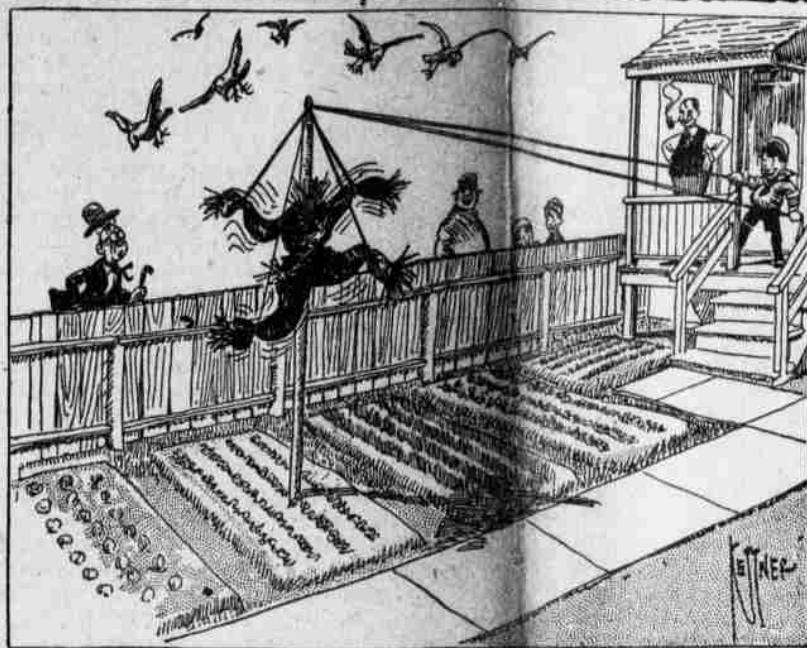
Count Tisza, the "iron man" of Austria-Hungary, has been for many years the leader of the pro-German party in the dual monarchy and was the last survivor of the little group of statesmen who surrounded Emperor Francis Joseph when the European war began.

On the accession of Emperor Charles the majority of the officials of the previous regime were dismissed or resigned. There have been persistent reports from many sources that Emperor Charles keenly resented the dominance of Berlin in Austro-Hungarian affairs and that Count Tisza was the one great obstacle which prevented him from freeing his empire from the influence of Potsdam.

Germans Lose 4,245,000 Men.

The Hague, May 24.—The total number of German losses up to the end of April is estimated at 4,245,000. These figures were compiled from the various lists issued in Berlin. Nearly 1,000,000 Germans have been killed in battle. The balance represent men lost as prisoners or wounded.

CITY BACKYARDS FARMER



C. Backyards Farmer, Jr., is Doing His Bit.

REVENUE BILL PASSES HOUSE

IN ALMOST SAME FORM AS FRAMED IN COMMITTEE WITH OPPOSING VOTE OF 76.

Although Democratic Side Hits Certain Sections—Greatly Increased Levy is Made on Luxuries, and Customs Free List Will Be Abolished.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Washington.—The war revenue bill, framed to bring into the treasury \$1,800,000,000 through new taxation the coming year, passed the House by a vote of 329 to 76 in almost the same form that it was presented by the Ways and Means Committee two weeks ago. All the opposing votes were cast by Republicans, although there are many members on the Democratic side opposed strongly to certain sections of the measure. Virtual re-drafting of the bill in the Senate is regarded as certain. Material changes already are contemplated by the Senate Finance Committee as a result of public hearings held during the long debate in the House. Final passage of the bill probably can not be had in less than a month.

Outstanding features of the bill are the greatly increased income, inheritance, excess profits, liquor and cigar and tobacco taxes, virtual abolition of the present custom free list and a 10 per cent addition to existing tariffs, new taxes on manufacturers, amusements, clubs, public utilities and insurance, a far reaching stamp tax and a greatly increased second-class mail matter rate based on the parcel post zone system. In only four particulars does the measure differ substantially from the original draft. Surtaxes on incomes above \$40,000 have been increased about one-fourth above the committee schedule. Several articles, including print paper and pulp and gold and silver, slated for a 10 per cent duty, have been kept on the free list. Slight reduction in the second-class mail matter rates have been made. A proposed 5 per cent tax on all advertising, except newspaper and periodical, is eliminated.

LANSING WARNS DELEGATES

To Stay Away From Peace Meeting in Sweden—Government Refuses To Grant Passports.

Washington.—Emphatic disapproval of the peace propaganda of European Socialists was expressed by the American Government, which denied passports to American delegates to the Stockholm conference and issued a warning that any American taking part in the negotiations would be legally liable to heavy punishment. No formal announcement of purpose was issued, but officials explained that the government's course would have the two-fold effect of discrediting generally any peace moves by unauthorized persons and of condemning in particular the present Socialist agitation, regarded since its inception as inspired by Germany. In making known the decision not to give passports to the American Socialists designated to take part in the Stockholm conference, Secretary Lansing cited the Logan act of 1790, as defining the punishment which might be expected by any American now in Stockholm or who might go there without a passport and participate in the peace discussions.

Paris.—The election held in this city for the issuance of 40,000 bonds for the construction of a filtration plant and erection of a negro school building carried two to one in favor of bonds.

FRENCH MISSION SAFE HOME

Joffre and Viviani Left Here May 15 Secretly, and Eluded All Enemy War Craft.

Paris, May 24.—General Joffre and ex-Premier Viviani, who headed the French mission to the United States, have arrived safely at Brest upon their return.

Only a few officials knew that former Premier Viviani of France and General Joffre sailed from New York on May 15. The party sailed on the same ship which had brought them to the United States and which was conveyed by men-of-war. The secrecy attending the departure of the French mission was maintained to prevent the Frenchmen's plans from falling into the hands of German spies and to keep the envoys safe from being endangered by German submarines.

YANKEE WOMEN TO WIN WAR

Board Appeals to the House to Prevent Waste of World Conflict.

Washington, May 24.—"The hand that rocks the cradle" is the hand that not alone rules the world, but will win the world war. Members of President Wilson's food administration declared that the American woman can win the war, for she can do the greatest "bit" in the program of food conservation so that the United States may feed its allies.

Food economists have estimated that fully 90 per cent of the food consumed by the American peoples each day is under the control of women. If each woman will make herself a food controller, officials say, the food conservation in this country will be such that there will be a great plenty for exportation to the allied countries and a sufficient quantity to ration the neutrals.

While the plans of the food administration have not been announced and are still far from complete, it is known that the present plans call for a large number of women to take an active part in the work of administering the food resources of the United States.

Fire at Norfolk Navy Yard.

Norfolk, Va., May 24.—Naval officials declined to make any estimate of the damage resulting from a fire in the navy yard. The fire was in one of the machine shops and following its discovery a general call to quarters was sounded. Earlier in the day the entire yard had been tied up by the short-circuiting of a generator in the power plant.

Chinese Premier Dismissed.

Peking.—President Li Yuan Hung has issued a mandate dismissing Premier Tuan Chi Jui from office and naming Dr. Wu Ting-Fang, former ambassador to the United States, as acting premier and empowering him to form a new cabinet. This action probably will end the deadlock in parliament and make possible a declaration of war by China against Germany.

Dry for the First Time.

San Antonio.—For the first time since the establishment of Ft. Sam Houston as an army post it was impossible to obtain any kind of intoxicating liquors at the two clubs which officers maintain there.

Railroad Earnings Drop.

Washington, May 24.—Railroad earnings dropped off nearly \$10,000,000 between March, 1916, and March, 1917, according to figures on net earnings of the 187 principal steam roads of the United States made public by the interstate commerce commission.

Knoxville.—One-third of the fees collected by the physicians of this city who remain at home will be given to those who volunteer to go with the hospital corps in the U. S. army.

GERMANS FAIL STOP ALLIED PUSH

British and French Tighten the Grip on Von Hindenburg's Boasted "Iron Line."

ITALIANS SMASH AUSTRIANS

They Have Massed Huge Forces to Hit Enemy Vital Blow—Experts Say Battle Will Be Decisive Victory for Entente.

London, May 24.—The second phase of the great battles of Arras, the Aisne and Champagne has ended in the failure of the most determined and costly German efforts to stem the tide of victory now setting against them. The net result to Field Marshal von Hindenburg's supreme effort to regain the initiative has been that the British and French have tightened their grip on the German line and have placed in great peril the key positions held by the Germans in northern France.

The customary lull which separates all major operations in modern warfare has come and the expectation is that it will be broken by a British blow on a great scale against the Drocourt-Queant line, already virtually outflanked. Meanwhile the usual crop of peace rumors which marks these lulls has made its appearance.

Reports from all kinds of sources, unofficial, semi-official, "inspired" and the like, tell of offers from Austria to Russia, Germany to Russia and Austria and Germany to the collective entente powers. The unnamed diplomats who apparently infest Switzerland are unusually active, but there is nothing tangible or authentic to show what these reports are worth.

Italians Smashing Hard.

Rome, May 24.—The smashing offensive of the Italians on a 38-mile front between Tolmino and the Adriatic sea will resolve itself into a decisive battle according to the view expressed by military experts here.

The Italians are battling for two objectives, the first and most important of which is Trieste. The second is Laibach, and if they are able to occupy this city, they will be only 160 miles from Vienna.

Practically the entire Italian army is massed upon the Julian front, where a fierce fight is in progress among the mountains. It is estimated that the Italians have nearly three million men in action on this front.

The counter-drive of the Austro-Hungarians on the Trentino front is being carried out with extreme vigor, but without and decisive results.

Artillery activity has been increasing along the front of the Carnic Alps during the past 24 hours, indicating a resumption of infantry operations in that region soon.

A hot wave has struck the Italian front and has caused considerable suffering among the troops, especially the British artillerymen, who are working the big guns that the British war office sent to this front. Not only guns and ammunition, but a full supply of equipment was sent.

The devastation of the country recently taken by the Italians rivals that of France. Plague is a city of ruins. It has been under shell fire for two years. The Austro-Hungarians destroyed everything when they retired.

Germans Lose Millions.

Paris, May 24.—Since Sunday Germany has lost more than 15,000 men in killed, wounded and missing in the fighting by which the French gained full possession of all important points on all dominating crests of the Moronvillers crest.

The figures are those of headquarters. They give an adequate idea of the full extent of the victory achieved in the latest French double advance. General Nivelle's men are now in command of all important points between Mounts Cornillet and Teton. They are within half a mile of Montvillers itself.

From where the French lines are pushing forward there is a clear way down the valley of the Sulppe.

The new positions were attained after fierce fighting in an advance simultaneously executed on both the eastern and western extremities of the Moronvillers crest.

Three separate counter-attacks by the Germans on positions captured on Monday by the French were repulsed, according to an official statement issued by the French war office. The number of prisoners taken by the French during the day was 1,000.

British Help Italians Report.

Geneva, May 24.—It was reported from Vienna that the British have sent an army of 250,000 to aid the Italians in their offensive against the Austro-Hungarians.

Amsterdam, May 24.—The feeling is spreading throughout Germany that fighting is over on the eastern front.

LIEUT. COM. FRANCIS MARSH



Lieut. Com. Francis Marsh is attached to the bureau of ordnance in the navy department at Washington.

NEW MEXICAN MOVE

"Benevolent Neutrality" Will Be Carranza Policy.

The Senor Would Cultivate Friendly Relations With United States—He's in Need of Funds.

Washington, May 24.—Mexico is about to initiate a new policy of "benevolent neutrality" towards the United States. This became known when word was received today that Carranza had called a conference to be held in Mexico City between departmental heads of his government and representatives of all foreign interests, but particularly American, in Mexico.

The object of the meeting is to afford Carranza the opportunity of directly assuring foreign capital that he is not antagonistic to its Mexican investments and of candidly admitting that he realizes that the material progress of Mexico is dependent on the friendship of the United States and that the government is not anti-American.

The date of the conference has tentatively been set for the latter part of June, but it is expected that the preliminary details will be retarded on account of the war activity in the United States and that the date will be postponed until September.

Luis Cabrera, new minister of finance in Carranza's cabinet is shortly to be named minister of foreign relations and interior and will preside over the meeting.

The oil fields at Tampico, controlled by American, English and Dutch interests; the mining industry, especially copper, that is dominated by the American Smelting & Refining company and the National railways, owned in great measure by American stockholders, will be the main topics discussed at the conference.

Brazil May Enter War Shortly.

Washington.—Brazil's entry into the war is regarded here as a question merely of days. Those who have watched South American developments closely believe that the sinking of the steamer Tijuca may provide the incident required to place the more pacific members of the Brazilian Congress in the list of those willing to vote for active hostilities against Germany. President Braz asked Congress to revoke the declaration of neutrality, and if Congress accepts his suggestion a formal declaration of war probably will follow immediately.

Is Congress Stubborn?

Washington, May 24.—Administration supporters in congress declared that if the president is to have his way in providing for legal censorship a bill dealing separately with the subject must be prepared. Even then they say there are grave doubts that the measure can be jammed through.

and that complete attention can now be devoted to the western front. The annexationist propaganda in its extreme form is now spreading throughout Germany. The Anglo-French offensive has undoubtedly saved Russia from invasion, as otherwise the German troops would have had practically an uninterrupted promenade to Petrograd.

London, May 24.—The American medical unit which arrived last week was reviewed by King George, Queen Mary, the prince of Wales and Princess Mary at Buckingham palace.